



# I WITNESS NEWS

INSTITUTE FOR GLOBAL OPPORTUNITIES • FALL 2015

## IGO VISION

The purpose of IGo is to provide students with a cross-cultural setting in which mission work, Biblical teaching and personal discipleship can take place simultaneously.

We believe that it is more beneficial to be training missionaries overseas rather than in the affluent Western setting. IGo provides students with opportunities to travel and minister in Asia, with regular returns to the classroom for teaching and mentoring by instructors. The focus is not solely theoretical; instead it addresses the everyday issues a student experiences in ministry.

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## BID ME COME

When Jesus came walking on the water towards the disciples, there was one disciple who got this wild idea to ask Jesus if he could also walk on the water. These men had never seen anyone walk on water until that moment when Jesus approached their boat. To see Jesus walking on water was so amazing that at first they thought he was a ghost. They didn't think flesh and blood could walk on water – only a spirit could do that. Therefore, their first thought was that this figure coming towards them must be a ghost. But when Jesus said "Don't be afraid, it is I", Peter's response was almost instant, "Jesus, if that is really you, tell me to come!"

"Peter, you cannot be serious, asking me to let you walk on the water! That's only for heavenly beings, and none of you in the boat fit that description! Why do you want to walk on water? Just stay in the boat!"

But none of those thoughts seemed to cross Jesus' mind. He seemed good with Peter's request, and told him to come!

Now it was Peter's turn to take action and follow Jesus' invitation to walk on the raging water. Peter did not need any coaxing. He just hopped out of the boat and headed out to Jesus – walking on the water. Wow, he really could do it! Peter was doing what previously only Jesus could do; walk on water.

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**Student Ministry Trip to Indonesia**



Have you ever pondered why Jesus accepted Peter's request to walk on the water? Wasn't that a carnal desire of Peter to want to do what only Jesus could do? Really, what good would it do Peter to walk on the water? Knowing the character that Peter was, walking on water would probably only get used for bragging purposes against the other eleven disciples. Surely Jesus would not allow Peter to do something that would only feed his ego! And there is definitely no spiritual reason for a request like this; it seems to be loaded with carnality, not spirituality! But Jesus said, "Come".

Peter did something that none of the other disciples did; he walked on water. Why did Peter get that privilege and none of the other disciples? The answer is simple; Peter asked! None of the others had the courage, the imagination, the stupidity, or whatever you want to label it, to make such a crazy request of Jesus. Yet, Jesus seemed good with Peter's request. There was no rebuke, just a simple "Come". Once Peter and Jesus were back in the boat, I wonder how many of the other disciples wished they could have walked on the water too.

Have you ever seen God at work and thought, "I wish I

could be a part of that"? Do you have a desire to do what Jesus is doing today? Why not follow Peter's example and ask? Yes, just ask, "Jesus, if you are in this work, bid me come".

I wonder how many opportunities for ministry we are missing today because we simply are not asking our Lord if we can do it. When was the last time that you asked Jesus if you could join Him in a specific work? I am confident that Jesus' response to our request to do what He is doing will be the same as His response to Peter's request to walk on the water: "Come".

But how do I know when Jesus is really in a work and that it is not just some other work of man?

Here is your test. If Jesus is really doing a work, the same three actions that were required of Peter will also be required of you.

First, Jesus will bid you come. You must first ask, but if it is really a work of God, He will bid you come. As one of His sheep, you know the voice of the Good Shepherd. So if you are asking to join Him in what He is doing, He will tell you to come, and you will know His voice. If Jesus is

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## CONTACT INFORMATION

Send correspondence and make checks payable to:

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Canadian donations should be sent to and be made payable to:

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## CROSS-CULTURAL LEADERSHIP SEMINAR

*Previously known as the IGo Minister's Semester*

March 13-31, 2017

The purpose of IGo's Cross-Cultural Leadership Seminar is to equip church leaders and lay members with tools for fulfilling the Great Commission in taking the gospel to both their home communities and the foreign mission field. This seminar will run simultaneously with IGo's Asian Bible School to provide fellowship and interaction with Asian believers.

### Schedule:

March 13-24	Classes
March 25-30	Ministry Trip
March 31	Wrap Up

### Classes Offered:

- The Shaping of a Disciple* - Duane Weber
- The Ministry of the Holy Spirit* - Raymond Burkholder
- Cultural Anthropology* - Rick Rhodes

### Total Cost:

\$1,000 per single and \$1,800 per couple  
(not including flight to Thailand)

Please contact our secretary at [igoasia@hotmail.com](mailto:igoasia@hotmail.com) if you wish to receive a brochure and application by mail. You may also find this information at [www.igoasia.org](http://www.igoasia.org).

## IGO CANADA

IGo Canada is pleased to announce that we have received charitable status from the Canada Revenue Agency. We can now receive donations to be used for ministry in Asia through IGo Canada.

IGo Canada is directed by a board of three men, Steve Kuepfer, *Kenora, ON*, Darrell Nisly, *Sioux Narrows, ON* and Milton Loewen, *Arborg, MB*.

Donations for IGo Canada can be sent to **IGo Canada, PO Box 34, Sioux Narrows, ON POX 1N0**

Receipts will be given for Canadian income tax purposes at the end of each calendar year.



## IGO GOSPEL TEAM

If you are interested in hosting an IGo Gospel Team program in your church or community in January 2016, please contact us at [igoasia@hotmail.com](mailto:igoasia@hotmail.com) for more information. The program will include an IGo presentation, a guest speaker, and a group of students who will share in testimony and song.

# BID ME COME CONT.

bidding you to come, that is what you need to do.

Secondly, you have to get out of the boat; you cannot stick with the norm. If you want to be involved with what Jesus is doing, more often than not, you cannot stay with your friends in your comfort zone. You are going to have to “get out of the boat”. The only disciple that walked on the water was the one who got out of the boat.

Lastly, you have to keep your eyes on Jesus; you cannot do it in your own strength. Peter’s short stint of walking on the water almost came to a quick end when he took his eyes off of Jesus. Peter learned very quickly that he could not

walk on water without fixing his eyes on the One who had bid him “Come”. If you are doing a work that you are able to accomplish without fixing your eyes on Jesus, you are not doing Jesus’ work! Jesus is not in the habit of calling men to tasks that they can accomplish in their own strength.

So go ahead, be like Peter and ask Jesus if you can do what He is doing! Ask Jesus to bid you come. Ask Jesus to bid you to join Him in the work of rescuing souls! The fields are white unto harvest, but the reapers are few!

- *Rick Rhodes*



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